



Drawing and Exporting Polygons Made Easy with Google Earth Pro

Introduction:

Google Earth Pro offers powerful features that make drawing and exporting polygons a breeze. This tutorial will guide you through the process step-by-step, from downloading Google Earth Pro to creating and exporting your polygon selection. Let's dive in!

Draw your areas of interests

Step 1: Download and Install Google Earth Pro

To begin, download Google Earth Pro from the following link:

<https://www.google.com/earth/desktop/>. It's a free version with enhanced capabilities compared to regular Google Earth.

Step 2: Launch Google Earth Pro and Choose Your Location

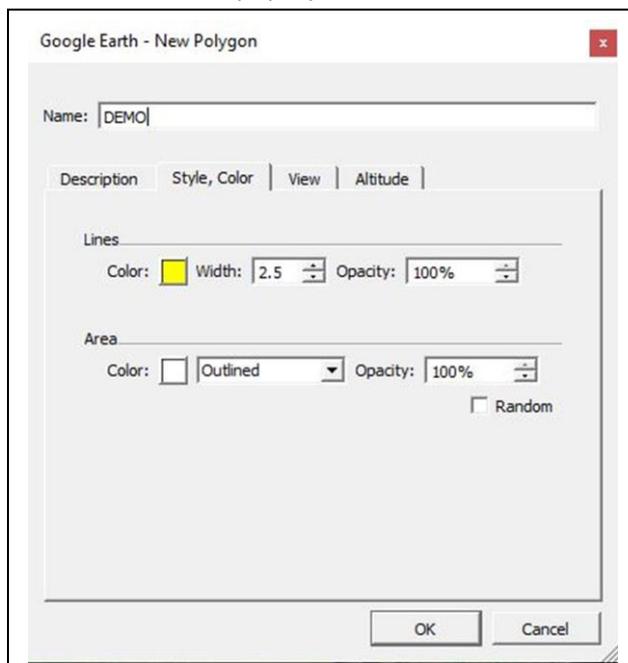
Open Google Earth Pro and select the location where you want to draw your polygon. This can be any area you wish to mark or measure.

Step 3: Access the Polygon Tool

Locate the "Polygon tool" at the top of your screen. It is represented by an icon resembling a closed shape. Here it is circled in red



A new window will pop-up (see below)



You should name your polygon (advised for later use) in the "Name" box.

Select the "Style, Color" tab and:

- change the "Lines" color yellow (as long as it will contrast with the background)
- change the "Lines" width to 2
- change the "Area", to **Outlined**

Now we can start to draw our polygon. **Do not click OK yet.**

You will notice that the mouse cursor is different (like a cross hair). Left-click on the corners of your area of interest until the polygon is closed.



Note: If you press "Delete" (or right-click), the last point you created will be removed, allowing you to adjust your selection in case of any mistakes. Every time you use the "Delete" (or right-click) option, the preceding entry will be deleted.

The polygon can also be modified afterward by clicking and dragging on the nodes (indicated by small red squares visible in the image above).

If you do not see the "nodes," you can still drag the corners by hovering the mouse cursor over the corner of the line. It will change from a crosshair to a hand, enabling you to click on the corner and drag it to the desired location.

Once you are satisfied with your selection, simply click the "OK" button.

Tools

Google Earth Pro provides two useful measurement tools: the Ruler tool and the Area Measurement tool. These tools allow you to measure distances and areas on the map, helping you gather valuable geospatial information.

Ruler Tool:

The Ruler tool in Google Earth Pro allows you to measure distances between two or more points on the map. It is particularly useful for measuring straight-line distances along a path, such as roads, rivers, or property boundaries. Here's how you can use the Ruler tool:

- a. To activate the Ruler tool, click on the "Ruler" icon located in the top toolbar or access it through the "Tools" menu.
- b. Once the Ruler tool is activated, click on the starting point of your measurement. You'll see a point and a line extending from it.
- c. Continue clicking on additional points along the path you want to measure. Google Earth Pro will display the total distance between each consecutive pair of points.
- d. To end the measurement, right-click on the map or click the "End Measurement" button in the measurement dialog box.
- e. The total distance measured will be displayed in the measurement dialog box, along with the option to save or clear the measurement.

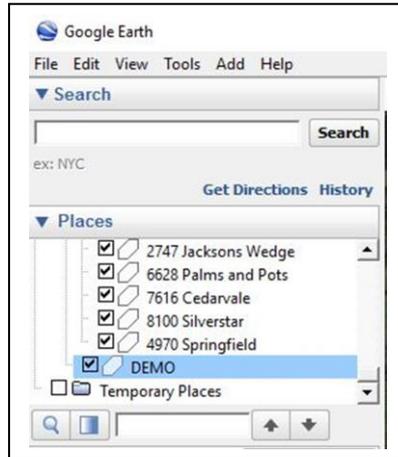
Area Measurements:

The Area Measurement tool in Google Earth Pro allows you to measure the area of a closed polygon on the map. This is particularly useful for measuring the size of fields, forests, lakes, or any other enclosed area.

- a. To activate the Area Measurement tool, click on the "Area" icon located in the top toolbar or access it through the "Tools" menu.
- b. Click on the map to define the vertices of your polygon. As you click, you'll see a line connecting each vertex, forming the outline of the polygon.
- c. To close the polygon and complete the measurement, double-click on the last point or right-click and select "Finish Area."
- d. The total area measured will be displayed in the measurement dialog box, along with the option to save or clear the measurement.
- e. You can choose the unit of measurement (e.g., square meters, square kilometers, acres) in the measurement dialog box, depending on your preference.

Organise your polygons

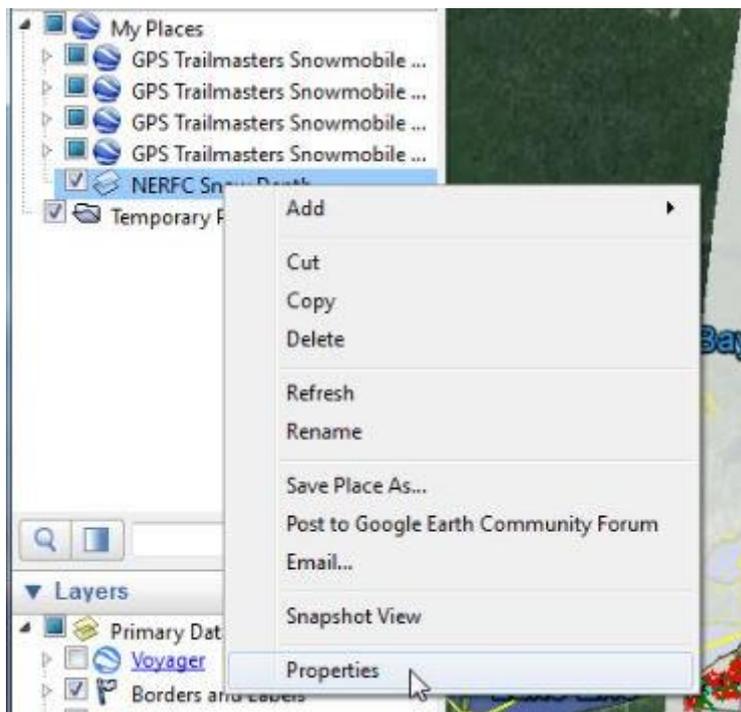
You will see on the left panel called "Places" your new selection (see below).



Now, right-click on this new selection, and several options will be available, such as renaming it, changing its properties (color, width, or position of the lines, as mentioned on the last page), or exporting it.

NOTE: If you have multiple polygons within the same project, you can create a folder to keep all your polygons organized. Simply right-click on your polygon named "DEMO" and select "Add / Folder." Name your new folder and click OK. A new folder will appear in the "Places" panel. Now, you can select your polygons and drag them into the new folder.

With this setup, you can easily export all your polygons in one go by right-clicking on your folder and choosing your export options.





Saving Your Selection on Your Hard Drive:

To save your selection on your hard drive, go to the "Places" panel, right-click on your polygon, and select "Save Place As...". You can choose the desired location on your hard drive to save this selection. Please note that the file extension will be either KMZ or KML. (A KMZ file is a zipped KML file).

Sending Your Selection by Email:

Sending your polygon by email directly from Google Earth is a straightforward process. In the "Places" panel, right-click on the polygon of your choice and select "Email..."